What is claimed is:

1. A method for reducing a pro-MS immune response in an individual, the method comprising administering to an individual a composition, wherein the composition comprises an affinity ligand which selectively binds to a B cell determinant, wherein the B cells targeted by the method and by the composition are nonmalignant B cells, and wherein the composition is administered in an amount effective to deplete B cells.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the nonmalignant B cells arm B cells selected from the group consisting of mature B cells and memory B cells, CD19+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD21+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD5+sTn+ B cells, and a combination thereof.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is administered by a mode selected from the group consisting of parenterally, and in a site-directed method in which the composition is delivered into an access that directly supplies central nervous tissue undergoing demyelination.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an additional component selected from the group consisting of one or more chemotherapeutic agents, an anti-inflammatory agent, a cytolytic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and a combination thereof.

6. A site-directed method for reducing a for reducing a pro-MS immune response in an individual, the method comprising administering to an individual a composition, wherein the composition comprises an affinity ligand which selectively binds to a B cell determinant, wherein the B cells targeted by the method and by the composition are nonmalignant B cells, which the composition is delivered into an access that directly supplies central nervous tissue undergoing demyelination, and wherein the composition is administered in an amount effective to deplete B cells.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the nonmalignant B cells are B cells selected from the group consisting of mature B cells and memory B cells, CD19+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD21+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD5+sTn+ B cells, and a combination thereof.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody.

9. The method according to claim 6, wherein the composition further comprises an additional component selected from the group consisting of one or more chemotherapeutic agents, an anti-inflammatory agent, a cytolytic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and a combination thereof.

10. A method for reducing a pro-MS immune response in an individual, the method comprising administering to an individual a composition, wherein the composition comprises an affinity ligand which selectively binds to a B cell determinant, wherein the B cells targeted by the method and by the composition are nonmalignant B cells, wherein the composition is administered intravenously, and wherein the composition is administered in an amount effective to deplete B cells.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the nonmalignant B cells are B cells selected from the group consisting of mature B cells and memory B cells, CD19+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD21+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD5+sTn+ B cells, and a combination thereof.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody.

13. The method according to claim 10, wherein the composition further comprises an additional component selected from the group consisting of one or more chemotherapeutic agents, an anti-inflammatory agent, a cytolytic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and a combination thereof.

14. A method for treating an individual having a disease condition selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis (MS) and a pro-MS immune response, and a pro-MS immune response, wherein the composition comprises an affinity ligand which

selectively binds to a B cell determinant, wherein the B cells targeted by the method and by the composition are nonmalignant B cells, and wherein the composition is administered in an amount to effect a reduction in inflammation underlying clinical manifestations of MS.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the nonmalignant B cells are B cells selected from the group consisting of mature B cells and memory B cells, CD19+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD21+sTn+ B cells, CD19+CD5+sTn+ B cells, and a combination thereof.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody.

17. The method according to claim 14, wherein the composition further comprises an additional component selected from the group consisting of one or more chemotherapeutic agents, an anti-inflammatory agent, a cytolytic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and a combination thereof.